



Critical Notice: Bed Bug Awareness and Prevention



A Message from Civil Pest Control and Building Management

At **Civil Pest Control**, our priority is ensuring a safe, healthy, and comfortable home for all residents. **Bed bugs** are challenging pests that require immediate and coordinated action to eliminate. We need your crucial help in **identifying, preventing, and reporting** any signs of activity to keep our building bug-free.

Part 1: How to Identify Bed Bug Activity

Bed bugs are tiny, reddish-brown insects that feed on blood. They hide during the day and come out to feed at night. Early detection is key to successful treatment.

Look for the "Trifecta" of Physical Evidence:

- **Blood Spots:** Tiny, rust-colored or reddish stains on your sheets, mattress, or pillowcase, often caused by crushed bugs.
- **Fecal Spots:** Small, dark brown or black spots (like marker dots) on mattresses, bedding, walls, or furniture. These are digested blood; if wiped with a wet rag, they will smear.
- **Shed Skins (Exoskeletons):** Light brown, empty shells left behind as bugs grow. Look for these near hiding spots.

Other Signs:

- **Sightings:** Adult bed bugs are about the size of an **apple seed** (mm), flat, and oval-shaped. They appear swollen and reddish after feeding.
 - **Hiding Spots:** Check seams and tags of mattresses, box springs, crevices of bed frames, headboards, and upholstered furniture.
 - **Bites:** Small, red, itchy welts that often appear in a **cluster or line** ("breakfast, lunch, and dinner") on exposed skin.
 - **Odor:** In heavy infestations, a sweet, musty, or "rusty" odor may be present.
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Part 2: Tips for Preventing Bed Bugs

Bed bugs are most often brought into homes through travel or used items. Take these steps to reduce your risk:

1. Travel Awareness

- **Inspect Hotel Rooms:** Before unpacking, thoroughly check the mattress seams, headboard, and nearby furniture.
- **Luggage Safety:** Keep luggage off the floor and away from the bed.
- **Post-Travel Laundry:** Immediately wash and dry all clothing (even unworn items) on the

hottest setting the fabric can handle when you return home.

2. Item Screening

- **Check Used Items:** Carefully inspect any used or second-hand furniture (especially mattresses, couches, or headboards) before bringing them into your home. **Never** take discarded items from the curb.

3. Home Maintenance

- **Reduce Clutter:** Minimize clutter, especially piles of clothes, books, and boxes near your bed, as these are ideal hiding spots.
 - **Vacuum Regularly:** Vacuum carpets, floors, and around the bed often. **Immediately** dispose of the vacuum bag (or empty canister contents into a sealed bag) outside in a tied trash receptacle.
 - **Protect Your Bed:** Consider encasing your mattress and box spring in **bed bug-proof, zippered covers**.
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Part 3: What to Do If You Suspect Bed Bug Activity

Timely reporting is essential for Civil Pest Control to isolate the issue and begin effective treatment.

If you find any signs of bed bug activity:

1. **DO NOT** attempt to treat the problem yourself with sprays or foggers. This often causes the bugs to scatter and spread the infestation to other units.
2. **DO NOT** move your furniture or mattress into the hallway or another unit. This is the fastest way to spread the infestation.
3. **REPORT IMMEDIATELY:** Contact building management right away.

Your cooperation is critical to preventing the spread and protecting our entire community.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Party	Contact Name/Department	Phone Number	Email/Address
Building Management			
Pest Control Company	Civil Pest Control	[1-647-507-PEST-7378]	Antoniot@civilpest.com

Please report any concerns promptly and confidentially.
